

**AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING.**—The proceedings at the Lewes meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society this year, showed an interesting advancement in agricultural machine-making, and in the number as well as the rank of competitors. "An impression," says a contemporary, "which must be produced on the mind of every attentive visitor to the show-yard of the society is the extraordinary attraction which the manufacturers of machinery for the use of the farm feel and own towards these annual exhibitions. At great expense, they continue year after year to compete with each other, and so strong is the spirit of rivalry which pervades them, that a blacksmith (not long ago in a very small way in this neighbourhood) exhibits goods to the value of 2,000*l*. Many of these men, who now employ hundreds of hands, commenced business like this blacksmith, and they have risen by degrees till their business at length embraces a variety of mechanical details, and calls forth an ingenuity which makes it not only an important branch of our national industry, but a prominent feature in that great system of labour economised by machinery, which is the chief source of our wealth as a people." The chief machines exhibited were improved reaping machines and portable steam-engines, draining-ploughs, thrashing-machines, chaff-cutters, &c. The principal exhibitors were Messrs. Ransome, Garrett, Howard, Hornaby, Fowler, Clayton and Shuttleworth, Richmond and Chandler, &c.

**THE HARBOUR AT GUERNSEY.**—The ceremony of laying the first stone of the harbour in, we are informed, postponed from the 4th of this month (the day originally decided on) to the 18th. The contracts for the works not being yet signed, and not, as has been industriously rumoured, from any differences having arisen between the harbour committee and the contractors, or from any objection upon the part of the latter gentlemen to execute the instrument.

**CREMONA.**—These gardens have been much improved: they are exceedingly well conducted, and do credit to Mr. Simpson, the proprietor. A benefit for a charitable institution led us there a few days ago, and we are bound to say that a larger amount of amusement for a similarly small entrance-fee was never given. The gardens were crowded, but everywhere the greatest order, propriety, and good humour prevailed. Balloons, a ballet, good horse-riding, clever contortionists, music, Kaffirs, and fireworks fill pleasantly every minute of a long but not late evening.

**THE BURIAL ACT—KENSINGTON.**—At a meeting of the vestry on the 2nd inst. a Burial Board was appointed for Kensington, with instructions to report to the vestry the results of their necessary inquiries on the subject, and not to enter into any contracts or arrangements without the sanction of the vestry being first obtained. Some of the speakers were in favour of arranging with one of the cemetery companies for part of their grounds.

**ORNAMENTAL ZINC.**—A process has been patented, by which zinc may be coated, coloured, and ornamented, so as to be calculated to bring the material into use for purposes to which it has not yet been applied. The coating or ornament given to the zinc is varied in character according to circumstances: in some cases a strong coating is formed on the zinc, and in others a mere stain; and, according to the patentee, the coating, being chemically attached to the metal, and in a manner identified with it, is exceedingly durable both in substance and colour; has no tendency to crack or come off, and is unaffected by moisture or moderate heat. The process is simple and inexpensive, and no machinery is necessary. Hence articles can be ornamented at a moderate cost, and when art has been brought to bear upon it, it will probably come into use for several purposes.

**BATHS AND WASHHOUSES.**—A third edition has been published of the "Observations on Baths and Washhouses," by Messrs. Ashpitel and Whichorn (Weale). The pamphlet gives a brief sketch of their introduction, and an abstract of the Acts of Parliament relating thereto.

**INAUGURATION OF THE PEEL STATUE AT TAMWORTH.**—On 23rd ult. the bronze statue of the late Sir Robert Peel, by Noble, was inaugurated in the market-place of Tamworth, directly in front of the town-hall. The figure, which stands upon a pedestal of Aberdeen granite, is more than life size, being 8 feet 4 inches in height. It represents the late Right Hon. Baronet in the attitude of speaking. In his right hand is a scroll, the left resting on the hip. The modern costume is covered by a cloak, which drapes the figure. The likeness may be said to be good, though the expression be rather severe. Sir R. Peel and other members of the family, together with many other gentlemen, were present at the inauguration, and the meeting was addressed by Sir R. Peel, Mr. Frederick Peel, the Mayor of Tamworth, and others.

**THE LATE SIR JAMES MACADAM.**—An old and highly respected subscriber, Mr. B. Hawes, calls our attention to the fact that in the paragraph announcing the death of the late Sir James Macadam, he is inadvertently called the originator, instead of son of the originator, of the system of road-macadamization. Our correspondent, who knew both father and son, adds that the late Sir James, though not himself the originator of the system, was employed under his father while carrying it out, and continued to be so till his own appointment to his father's office of inspector of the metropolitan roads, &c. at the death of the latter.

**ROCHDALE COMPETITION.**—Nine designs were submitted in competition for the New Congregational Church, in Rochdale, from which the committee have selected one prepared by Mr. Moffat Smith, of Manchester, and have awarded the second premium to Messrs. Barry and Murray, of Liverpool.

**BURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—The eighteenth general quarterly meeting of this society was held on Thursday in last week, by permission of Mr. Steel, of West Stow, in the brick gate-house of the hall, where were arranged a number of objects of the Anglo-Saxon period found on the neighbouring heath, together with various other art curiosities. Nearly a hundred members assembled, and the party visited the church, old Saxon burial-ground, and Hengrave Hall by permission of Sir Thomas Rokewood Gage, bart. where also a variety of archaeological relics was exhibited.

**STATUE OF CORNELIUS FOR DRESDEN.**—Hanel, a Dresden artist, it is said, has received the commands of the King of Saxony to proceed to Berlin, to execute a colossal statue of Cornelius. It is to be one of the eight statues, of the greatest artists of all ages, selected by the Saxon artists, to be erected in the hall of the new museum in Dresden. Cornelius is the only living artist to whom this honour has been accorded. His statue is to be placed next those of Raphael and Michaelangelo. Thorwaldsen is also named as one of the number decided on.

**PERSPECTIVE IN DESIGN.**—On reading Mr. Redgrove's excellent and instructive report on the works of the several students in the different departments of ornamental art, after noticing the advantage of geometry with reference to design, I do not perceive that he makes the slightest allusion to a knowledge of perspective. I am induced to refer to this from an observation I recollect being made by an eminent deceased architect, "That it was scarcely possible for an architect to make a design without a knowledge of perspective." There appears good reason in the above remark, for whatever object we behold, whether in the round or otherwise, we seldom or never see it in a geometrical position, or in other words, the eye can never be on a level with all parts. I cannot help thinking that if many of the artists who design some of the elegant vases and cups for distribution as prizes, &c. were to study their forms in perspective, they would produce more elegant compositions; for from a knowledge of geometry they would then apply the latest art judiciously, and I believe it would be found of the greatest utility, not only to our chasers in silver and gold, but also in our potteries, &c. I throw out these few hints with diffidence, and for no

other purpose than endeavouring to promote and assist the praiseworthy cause that is now being pursued in the great improvement in our manufactures and taste.—W.

**STATISTICS OF LABOUR, &c. AT MELBOURNE.**—The following is from a young man who left Glasgow. The accuracy of the statement may be relied on. "Melbourne, March 23, 1852.—With the gold business everything is more than doubled in price. Bread, 4*lb*. loaf, 1*s*. 2*d*. short weight included; butter, 2*s*. per *lb*.; cheese, 2*s*. 6*d*. per *lb*.; eggs, 3*s*. 6*d*. a dozen; potatoes, 8*s*. per *cwt*.; tobacco, 4*d*. an ounce, and very bad; but most people smoke cigars at 2*d*. each. Tea, common black, 1*s*. 6*d*. per *lb*. Good moist sugar at 4*d*. per *lb*. A carpenter or joiner, per day, 15*s*.; some 1*l*. and some 1*l*. 10*s*. for particular work; a labourer, 8*s*. per day, and some 10*s*.; blacksmiths, from 3*l*. to 5*l*. weekly; timmen I cannot say, they seem to me as if they were making their fortunes; they set up shop in nook or corner, and thrive; so much tin work being required for the diggings. The greatest inconvenience here is want of houses, more especially to those who have families. Before the golden time the town was rapidly progressing. Within a gunshot of where I live, I heard a woman asking a young man 15*s*. for a single room about the size of my kitchen. The prevailing rage is for money—money! and certainly they do send it flying about like chaff. Plenty of money, and good wages here for everything."—*Reas-shire Advertiser*.

**WAGES HEIGHTENED IN CONSEQUENCE OF IMPROVEMENT OF MACHINERY.**—It is stated in a report of the Commissioners appointed in 1832 to inquire concerning the employment of women and children in factories, that "in the cotton-mill of Messrs. Houldsworth, in Glasgow, a spinner employed on a mule of 336 spindles, and spinning cotton 120 hanks to the pound, produced in 1823, working 74½ hours a week, 46 pounds of yarn, his net weekly wages for which amounted to 27*s*. 7*d*. Ten years later, the rate of wages having in the meantime been reduced 13 per cent. and the time of working having been lessened to 69 hours, the spinner was enabled by the greater perfection of the machinery to produce on a mule of the same number of spindles, 53½ pounds of yarn of the same fineness, and his net weekly earnings were advanced from 27*s*. 7*d*. to 29*s*. 10*d*." Similar results from similar circumstances were experienced in the Manchester factories. The cheapening of the article produced by help of machinery, says Mr. G. R. Porter, increases the demand for the article; and there being consequently a need for an increased number of workmen, the elevation of wages follows as a matter of course. Nor is this the only benefit which the working man derives in the case, for he shares with the community in acquiring a greater command over the necessities which machinery is concerned in producing.

#### TENDERS

For constructing 4,708 feet of brick sewer, and laying down 11,946 feet of pipe-drains for the Kilburn-park estate. Mr. W. H. Ladbroke, architect.

Murray	25,361	2	8
Hill	4,794	4	0
Batterbury	4,737	8	6
Gibbs	4,609	6	11
Rodkin	4,371	11	0
Freud and Hamill	3,561	10	7
Barnes and Turner (accepted)	3,331	12	3

For the drainage of the Kilburn-park estate.

Murray	25,351	3	8
W. Hill	4,794	4	0
Batterbury	4,737	8	6
Gibbs	4,609	6	11
Rodkin	4,371	11	0
Freud and Hamill	3,561	10	7
Barnes and Turner	3,331	12	3

For the erection of a dwelling-house, at East Hendred, Berks, for Mr. Charles Mobey. (Bricks, lime, and sand provided by Mr. Mobey). Mr. James Brooks, architect.

Hunt, Wantage	21,064	0	0
Thomas, Abingdon	1,625	0	0
Woodley, East Hendred (accepted)	1,500	0	0
Brown, London	1,466	0	0

For Hurdfield Farmhouse. Messrs. Stevens and Park architects.

Ollershaw, Macclesfield	61,324		
Evans, Macclesfield	1,330		
Benn, Macclesfield	1,284		
Blackham, Macclesfield (accepted)	1,170		